



Weekly Club Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: August 22, 2017

Overall Comments:

- President Bill Klein led the meeting

Meeting Details:

- **Guest speaker is District Governor Bob Halagen**

President's Comments and General Meeting Announcements:

- Ken Stone announced the Merle Else Heart of Rotary Award is looking for nominations. It's presented annually to a COL club member in good standing in recognition of his/her outstanding service to the club and the community, who deserves recognition for his or her efforts on behalf of the City of Lakes Rotary Club, and on behalf of Rotary International
- Gary Mosiman invited all to join us at Community Emergency Services (CES) on Saturday, August 26, 2017. This will be another of our family friendly food shelf volunteer event where we will pack groceries for people in need. Starts at 9am, ends at around 11/11:30am.
- After volunteering at CES, please join us later that day (Sat, Sept 16) from 10am-5pm for Canstruction 2017 at the Mall of America. It's an exhibition of sculptures of canned goods to benefit Second Harvest Heartland food shelf. More info is on our website.
- The summer picnic is Sat, Aug 26, from 11:30am-2:00pm., at George Broostin's house in South Minneapolis home. Bring a dish to share. Rain date is Sat Sept 23rd.
- Our next off-site rotary meeting is at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, one of Kodet Architecture's projects, on 4801 France Ave S in Minneapolis. We'll get a tour of this beautiful midcentury modern church and learn how it has enhanced the congregation and community.
- Jean Johnson announced that COLRC received a \$3,000 district grant to buy books for Reading Partners to be used to help in tutoring sessions in St. Paul. We're also looking for diverse books to buy for kids to take home.
- After our regular meeting, a Mpls City of Lakes Board meeting occurred with District Gov Bob Halagen.

Jewelie Grape is today's Day Chair.

Her rotary moment was when she was involved with a water project in Haiti. She watched people cry when they finally bringing clean water to their community. On a personal note, she's climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro. She is an employee benefits attorney for a Washington D.C.

Biographical:

Bob Halagan has a been a member of the Buffalo Rotary Club since 200 and served as its President in 2009-2010. He has served as District 5950 Legal Counsel from 2011-2014., Area 13 Assist. Governor from 2010-2013 and The Rotary Foundation among other places, on numerous service trips to Guatemala where his club, in conjunction with other Rotary clubs has authored or participated over \$400,000 in Rotary grants including grants promoting economic development, nutrition and maternal health for indigenous women. In his non-Rotary life, Bob is an attorney who began practice with the largest law firm in MN and is now one of the smallest law firm (one person). Bob's legal practice focuses on small businesses and he believes the proper role of an attorney is to help owners make their best business decision in an ethical, practical and profitable manner. Bob served as mediator and arbitrator and has participated in hundreds of mediation sessions where the parties have successfully resolved their legal disputes.

Vocational/Happy Bucks:

Program/Speaker:

Bob Halagen feels that Rotary is a platform for him to be better than he could be by himself. He asked several other club members "Why are you here?"

Bob shared his Rotary story about being in a first generation family in the U.S. His mother was an immigrant from Czeckoslovakia – a hardworking country girl who married young and had three boys. She believed in sacrifices and she believed in service. Bob explained that he owes everything to his mother. Through Rotary, Bob visited Guatemala and felt privileged to work with women like his mother.

Through the experience visiting Guatemala, he felt they gave him more than he could ever give them.

Bob remarked on the civil rights speeches during segregation from people like Thurmond and Wallace – people in defense of segregation and he remarked how that anger and hatred still exists in our society. Their focus was/is on what takes us apart rather than what brings us together. He wants Rotary to be more inclusive. Only when ALL of us move forward, do one of us more forward.

Bob Halagen mentioned his meeting with Rotary International President Ian Riseley, a practical and inspirational leader.



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He described challenges and goals for District 5950 this year:

Increase Your Giving:

- Bob wants every rotary member to dig a little deeper and give a \$50 more.
- Last year our District donated \$800,000. District 5950 is one of the top giving Districts.
- This year Bob wants every club member to give at least \$365.
- If everyone gave this way we would have \$1M, which would mean \$500K to spend on our District and our communities.

Gender Equality:

- Our District has embraced the challenge of matching the male and female ratio of population in Minnesota. You'll be hearing lots more about our 50.3% goal for women in Rotary in District 5950. Bob wants Rotary to see 50.3% female Rotarians in our District and 50.3% female Rotarians in our state.
- Bob explained that in every community, female leaders are out there and they are never asked to join Rotary. Bob wants ALL of us to find a female member to join your Rotary club.
- Currently, twice as many women join Rotary over men, but they don't stay. And twice as many men stay after joining. It is a moral imperative to be standing for gender equality. We're currently rowing the boat with one oar.

Track Your Hours

Each district was asked to keep track of its hours of service and dollars contributed to their communities so that we can better tell our complete Rotary story.

Plant One Tree for Every Member

Each district has been challenged to plant one tree for every Rotarian in the district, an environmental challenge of planting 1.2 million trees this Rotary year!

Member recruitment:

- Every club has membership on its mind. Elevator speeches never worked for Bob but for our recruitment conversations, he encourages us to focus on the heart and soul of Rotary.
- Regardless of political views, we fix problems and get things done.
- Talk about the lives we change. We serve without expecting anything in return.
- Talk about service above self – we're an international club with thousands of friends around the world.

Other Challenges:

- Rotary needs to find ways to help address the opioid addiction epidemic.
- Human trafficking is a concern especially with the Superbowl in our city. This issue touches every community in our District. The vulnerable youth in our communities are targets.

Bob is honored to be this year’s District Governor and he wants to help us all be better Rotarians.

We were invited to **One Rotary Summit** (our club would pay for you to attend). It’s for District 5950 on Sept 15, 2017. Join the district and club leaders to exchange ideas and help the district develop membership tools. Register now on the District 5950 website.

What: One Rotary Summit

Where: Earle Brown Heritage Center

When: Friday, September 15, 2017, 8:00am to 1:00pm (Breakfast and Lunch are provided)

For: Club presidents, officers, membership chairs, public image chairs, Rotary Foundation chairs, general membership, assistant Governors and District Leadership Team.

Questions? Call Tom Gump: 612-770-8389.

Next Week’s Program:

President Bill Klein: 2017 Rotary International Convention

The meeting was adjourned with a ring of the bell by President Bill Klein at 8:30am

Reporter: Matthew Prediger